

March 1, 1984

LB 516, 994

an opportunity to vote on the bill, and its various sections, parts. But I think we need to talk a little bit about whether 994 as it presently stands is, in fact, a good idea. The answer, in my opinion, is there are a lot of provisions of this bill that I like, but it still sends the very incorrect signal and that incorrect signal is that we hold more dear and need to increase teachers' salaries than property tax relief. In my district they would like to raise teachers' salaries and they would also like to have property tax relief. But I think I am fair and I think I am reasonable and I think I am honest when I say that they would prefer property tax relief first. And it is with that in mind and that the signal in 994 is quite the opposite, it says that we have a lot of money to do a lot of wonderful things. And I would like to do wonderful things, but I don't think we have a lot of money to do them. For that reason, I am going to oppose the advancement of 994. I would like to urge other people to oppose the advancement of 994 also. Now there has been a great deal of talk about the possibility that the timing of this bill and the Christian school bill that comes up next are somewhat linked and that may be the case, but for me it is not. I think that for most of us it should not be and we should look at 994 simply on its merits and whether or not it says the right things for Nebraska right now.

PRESIDENT: Is there further discussion? The motion is to advance LB 994 as amended. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. The motion is to advance LB 994. Please record your vote. The Clerk will record the vote. Record vote has been requested.

CLERK: (Read the record vote as found on page 1250 of the Journal.) 29 ayes, 14 nays on the motion to advance the bill, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The bill is advanced. Do you have matters for the record at this time, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: Yes, sir. Mr. President, Senator Withem would like to add his name to LB 516 as co-introducer.